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Helena, Montana

Montana State Historical and Miscellaneous Library

Bulletin No. II.

September, 1908.

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History.—The Historical Society of Montana was incorporated by an act of the Legislative Assembly, approved February 2nd, 1865, by the following persons: H. L. Hosmer, C. P. Higgins, John Owen, James Stuart, W. F. Sanders, Malcolm Clark, F. M. Thompson, William Graham, Granville Stuart, W. W. DeLacy, C. E. Irvine, and Charles S. Baggs; "in order to collect and arrange facts in regard to the early history of this Territory, the discovery of mines, incidents of the fur trade, etc." Its first headquarters were at Virginia City. Subsequently they were moved to Deer Lodge, and then to Helena. After a time a room for the material collected was secured in the Lewis

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and Clark County Court house, and occupied for the first time July 5th, 1887. In 1893 the property of the Historical Society came under the control of the state. It was combined with the Miscellaneous Department of the State Library, and the whole placed under the control of a Board of five Trustees. On the completion of the State Capitol, in 1902, the present quarters were occupied.

Loans.—The Historical and Miscellaneous Library is a loan library. The desire is to make it of the largest possible service to every resident of the state. Loans may be secured in the following ways: Through the librarian of the public library, if there is one in the town; through the principal of the public school; and through the secretaries of literary societies, if these exist. If neither of these methods are available, books may be loaned, by reliable persons, direct from the library. In all cases transportation charges will be paid by the borrower.

In order that the Express Company's "book rates" —eight cents per pound—may be secured, express charges will be prepaid and bill sent to borrower. Books will be returned at the borrower's expense and the same rate can be secured.

Books may be kept two weeks, or if a longer time is desired, may be renewed by sending a postal card request in time to reach the library before the first two weeks has expired. A fine of five cents per day will be imposed for over time.

Government and State Publications and Bulletins.—The library receives all of these. They contain an immense amount of valuable information upon industrial and scientific questions, such as Irrigation, Dry Land Farming, Beet Culture, Food Adulteration and Inspection, Varieties and Care of Animals, Fertilizer's, etc. Not less interesting

and important are the Bulletins, etc. of the U. S. Geological Survey. The library makes a specialty of classifying these, and will be glad to give information in regard to the material bearing upon any given subject.

Magazines.—There is scarcely any subject of human interest that has not, at some time during the last few years, been written up in the current magazines by those thoroughly competent to speak with reference to it. This material we propose to place at the command of our patrons. We are already taking a large number of magazines, and expect to add to the list as the demand upon us is increased. These, and the bound volumes of magazines upon our shelves, will be loaned upon the same terms as the books, and will be found of greatest service by literary clubs, school debating teams, and private individuals engaged in any special line of research. Our magazines indexes enable us to turn readily to articles upon any given subject.

Newspaper Material.—Newspapers are makers of current history. Every newspaper and magazine published in the state is received at the library. The most valuable material in these is catalogued from day to day. The information thus collated we will be glad to place at the disposal of the patrons of the library. Inquiries in regard to it will be promptly answered.

WANTED.

Many of the early newspaper files in this library are not complete. It is greatly desired to make them so. Those having in their possession copies of any paper published in Montana prior to 1870, or knowing where such may be found, are earnestly requested to communicate with the librarian.



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Reading Lists on History of Montana and Contiguous Regions of the Northwest.

These outlines are published to facilitate the study of the history of Montana and the northwest. Copies of the bulletin will be gladly furnished to those interested. Where possible, further aid will be furnished upon application, in person or by letter.

GENERAL OUTLINE.

(I) Early Explorers and Explorations.

Verendrye.

Lewis and Clark.

(II) Fur Traders and Forts.

Missouri Fur Co.

Rocky Mountain Fur Co.

American Fur Co.

Bonneville.

(III) Early Missionary Efforts.

DeSmet.

Ravalli.

Whitman.

(IV) Early Gold Discoveries.

(V) Vigilantes.

(VI) Early Trails and Transportation.

(VII) Indian History—Treaties—Reservations.

(VIII) Indian Campaign of 1876.

Preliminary Movements.

Battle of Little Big Horn.

Defeat of Sitting Bull.

Death of Sitting Bull.

(IX) Nez Perce Campaign.

Preliminary Movements.

Battle of Big Hole.

Capture of Chief Joseph.

(X) Yellowstone Park.

(XI) Territorial Political History.

EARLY EXPLORERS AND EXPLORATIONS—VERENDRYE.

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- Winsor**, Justin. Narrative and critical history of America. 1899. vol. IV, p. 567.

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Photographs of letter of Capt. William Clark, 1829.

Photograph of letter from President Jefferson to Capt. Meriwether Lewis, Wash. 1803, concerning expedition to Rocky mountains.

Photograph of the falls of the Missouri river.

Photograph of big spring, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Toston, Montana, where Lewis and Clark expedition was July 25, 1805.

Photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander H. Willard. Mr. Willard member of Lewis and Clark expedition.

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- Ferguson, H. A. V.** Fort Benton memories.
- Hamilton, Wm. T.** A trapping expedition in 1848-'49.
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Illustrative Photographs.

- Pierre Choteau Jr.**
- Col. B. L. E. Bonneville.** (Plate).
- William Hamilton.** (Plate.)
- Andrew Dawson.**
- Joseph L. Meek.**
- Fort Benton.** (3 views.)
- Fort Union.** (3 views.)

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- De Smet, P. J.** Letters and sketches, with a narrative of a year's residence among Indian tribes of the Rocky mountains, 1843. (In early western travels, 1747-1848. v. 27, p. 135. R. G. Thwaites, ed.) 1905.
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- Marshall, Wm. I.** History vs The Whitman saved Oregon story. 1904.
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- Fort Benton.
- Old stage coach station at Montana city.
- Cabin store at Hell Gate canyon, Missoula county, Montana.
- Missouri river boat between Fort Benton and St. Louis in 1881.

Memorandum.

"Robbers' Roost".

Early day express, Helena. (Plate).

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Territorial judges of the supreme court.

F. M. Thompson, member first territorial assembly.

First legislative hall—Bannock. 1864.

Seal of territory. 1864.

Cabin where first legislative assembly was held.

Building occupied by territorial officers at Virginia City.